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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Rumania /Hungary

DATE DISTR. 24 Sep 1954

SUBJECT Physical Description and Location
of Rumanian Granaries

NO. OF PAGES 3

PLACE
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS. 1
(LISTED BELOW)DATE
ACQUIREDSUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

DATE OF INFORMATION

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1. The size, shape and disposition [geographic distribution] of grain ware-
houses [granaries] in Rumania is by and large the same throughout the
country. The same situation prevails in most parts of Hungary. As a
matter of fact, many of the granaries in the two countries are identical.
The major portion of granaries in Rumania and Hungary were erected prior
to World War I when these nations were a segment of the Austro Hungarian
empire.
2. In order to typify grain warehouses of these areas [redacted]
[redacted] the town of Oradea, Rumania [formerly Nagyvarad, Hungary].
3. [redacted] four warehouses in Oradea [redacted]
[redacted] stored medicinal herbs in various warehouses in both
Rumania and Hungary. There was very little essential difference in the
construction, size and shape of these granaries. The pattern was the
same.
4. In Oradea up to 1949 there were from eight to ten such buildings. The
fact that Oradea is a trade center and a focal shipping point accounts
for the fact that so many granaries were located there.
 - a. Although granaries in Oradea were abundant they were not always used
for grain storage. For example, the largest granary in the city
during World War II and thereafter was used to store machinery, mer-
chandise and other nondescript materials. This building was
approximately 45 to 50 feet high (six stories) thirty feet wide and

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about 100 feet long. Prior to collectivization it was owned by the city, and was the only granary located on the main railway line situated in the central part of the city.

- b. There was a three-story granary about two miles from the city. Up to 1949 it was used to store beer.
- c. The remaining warehouses are located near the depot. They are not on the main railway but are situated adjacent to railway sidings /spurs/.

5. Construction and Materials

- a. All granaries are so constructed that the platforms are built at boxcar door levels in order that grain can be loaded and unloaded with facility. [See Enclosure (A)].
- b. The foundation is usually above the surface of the earth. In most cases it consists of solid cement, four to five feet in thickness. With the foundation laid at this height, it facilitates the construction of platforms at a height parallel to the entrance of a boxcar door.
- c. The frame of warehouses constructed under Austrian rule is iron while more recent buildings utilize wooden materials throughout.
- d. The outer walls /sidings/ are either brick or mortar with brick construction predominant.
- e. In all warehouses the floor /first deck/ is always cement. Actually the first floor is a portion of the previously mentioned foundation. [See paragraph 5.b.]
- f. The upper decks, the staircases and the attics are always constructed of wooden materials.
- g. Roofing materials most commonly employed are baked clay or light tile.
- h. None of the warehouses [] had basements.
- i. In most cases the roofs are red. Brick structures /sidings/ are also red. Since some of these buildings have mortar siding their outer color is dark grey.

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- 6. Grain is very rarely shipped in bags. It is stored loosely in warehouses. In both loading and unloading grain is handled by shovels. At periodic intervals warehouse attendants turn the stored grain over by shovels. This is done in order to prevent or impede infestation particularly weevils (98% of the grain handled in Rumania is unsacked).
- 7. The diagram [See Enclosure (A)] represents the typical Rumanian and Hungarian warehouse in appearance, construction and materials. However, there are by far more two-story buildings than any other size. The average height of a two-story building is about six meters /19½ feet/. For each additional story one can estimate an additional height of approximately nine feet.

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ENCLOSURE (A): Sketch of a typical Rumanian and Hungarian Warehouse

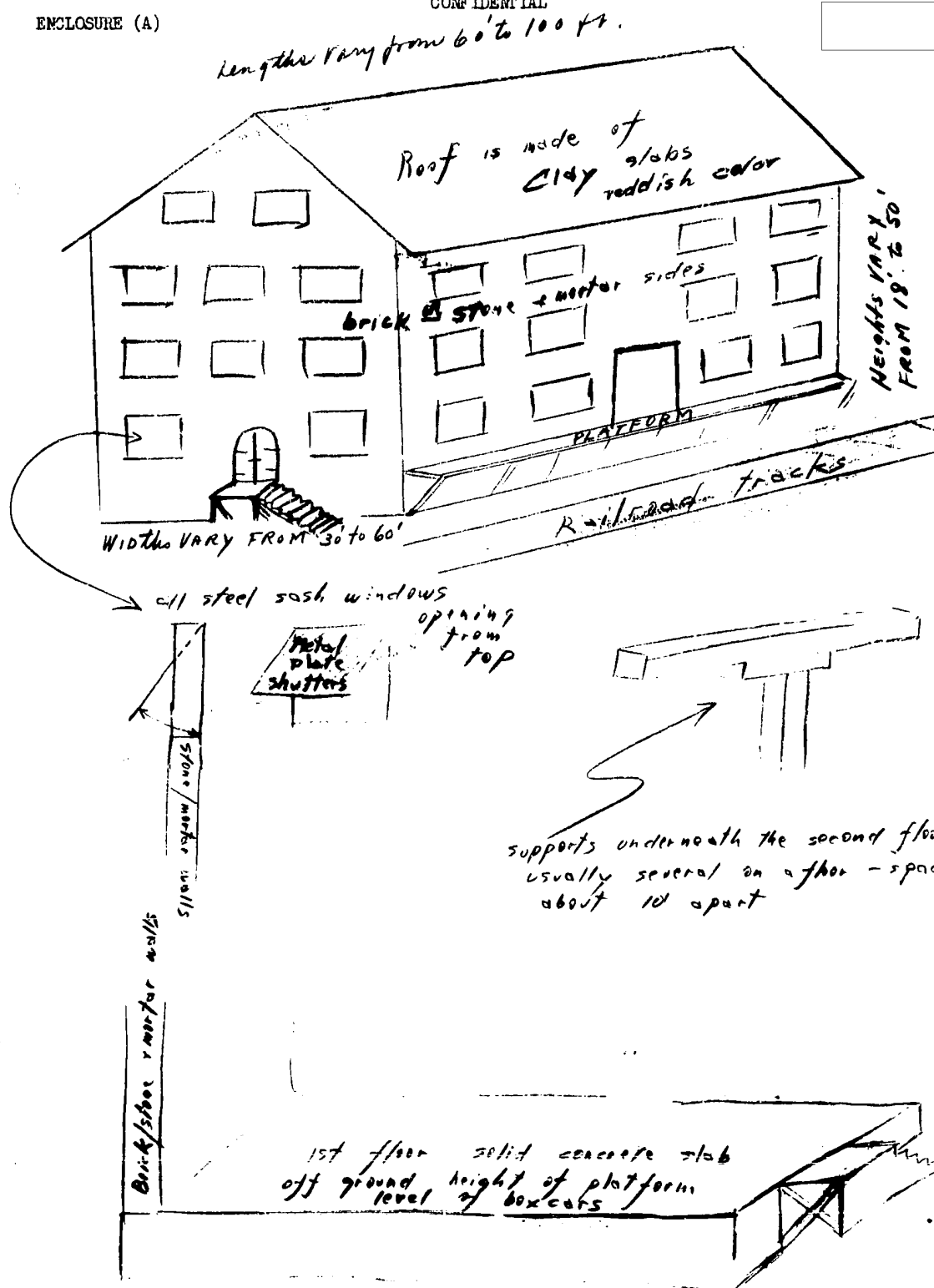
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ENCLOSURE (A)

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